

APPENDIX I

CLAIM AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the claims as shown on the following listing of claims:

1. (Original) A skin composition for external use comprising: the following acidic composition (A); and the following solidifying/gelling agent (B) which is to be supplied to the acidic composition (A) sticking to the skin:

(a) An acidic composition (A) containing: an alginate(s), at least one weak acid selected from among phosphoric acid-type weak acids and ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid-type weak acids, and water;

(b) A solidifying/gelling agent containing a calcium salt(s).

2. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, wherein the alginate is at least one selected from among sodium alginate and potassium alginate.

3. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, wherein the weak acid of phosphoric acid-type weak acids is at least one selected from among sodium dihydrogen phosphate and potassium dihydrogen phosphate.

4. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, wherein the calcium salt is at least one selected from among calcium chloride and calcium glycerophosphate.

5. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, wherein the solidifying/gelling agent is an aqueous solution containing calcium glycerophosphate and lactic acid.
6. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, wherein the acidic composition (A) further contains an adhesive for enhancing affinity for skin surface.
7. (Original) The skin composition for external use according to Claim 1, further comprising an absorbent which is to be impregnated with the acidic composition (A) and which is to be directly applied onto skin surface as impregnated with the acidic composition (A) thereby making the acidic composition (A) adhered to the skin surface.
8. (Original) A face mask-type skin composition for external use according to Claim 7, wherein the absorbent is shaped like a face mask substantially covering the overall facial area.
9. (Currently Amended) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to ~~any one of~~ Claim 1 to 6.
10. (Original) A wrinkle-flattening instrument comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 7.
11. (Original) A face mask-type wrinkle-flattening instrument comprising the face mask-type skin composition for external use according to Claim 8.

12. (New) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 2.

13. (New) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 3.

14. (New) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 4.

15. (New) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 5.

16. (New) An antipruritic agent for external use comprising the skin composition for external use according to Claim 6.